

## Message Text

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42

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /011 R

66624

DRAFTED BY: ARA/CAR: G. B. HIGH

APPROVED BY: ARA/CAR: JOHN R. BURKE

----- 117456

R 311918Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUESPR/AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE 4348

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMCONSUL CURACAO

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

UNCLAS STATE 174102

FOL SENT ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC INFO ABIDJAN ADDIS ABABA  
BAMAKO BELGRADE CANBERRA CARACAS DAR ES SALAAM FREETOWN  
JAKARTA KABUL MOSCOW NEW DELHI PORT OF SPAIN PRAGUE SANTIAGO  
SOFIA STOCKHOLM TEHRAN TUNIS PEKING AUGUST 31, 1973 FROM  
USUN NEW YORK REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

UNCLAS USUN 3036

DEPT PASS USINT BAGHDAD IMMEDIATE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN RQ PFOR

SUBJ: PUERTO RICO IN UN COMITE OF 24

REF: USUN 2967

1. AT ITS MEETING AFTERNOON AUG 30, COMITE OF 24 APPROVED  
RES ON PUERTO RICO TRANSMITTED REFTEL. VOTE WAS 12 IN  
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FAVOR (BULGARIA, CHILE, CHINA, CONGO, CZECHOSLOVAKIA,

INDIA, IRAQ, MALI, SYRIA, TANZANIA, USSR, YUGOSLAVIA),  
2 AGAINST (ETHIOPIA, IRAN), 9. ABSTENTIONS (AFGHANISTAN,  
AUSTRALIA, FIJI, INDONESIA, IVORY COAST, SWEDEN, TRINIDAD  
AND TOBAGO, TUNISIA, VENEZUELA) AND 1 ABSENTEE (SIERRA  
LEONE). ANALYSIS OF VOTE AND LAST-MINUTE NEGOTIATIONS  
WILL FOLLOW SEPTEL.

2. IMMEDIATELY AFTER VOTE, AMB SCALI ISSUED FOLLOWING  
STATEMENT TO PRESS:

"I CONSIDER TODAY'S VOTE BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON  
DECOLONIZATION TO BE NOT ONLY IRRELEVANT BUT LUDICROUS.

IT IS PARTICULARLY MYSTIFYING, COMING ONLY A FEW DAYS  
AFTER SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM IN HIS ANNUAL REPORT  
COUNSELED THAT MEMBER STATES COULD DEVELOP A FAR MORE  
EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION BY CONSISTENTLY  
RESPECTING THE DECISIONS AND FINDINGS OF THE MAIN ORGANS  
OF THE UN. SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE NOT ONLY  
IGNORED THIS ADVICE; THEY ALSO IGNORED RESOLUTION 748  
ADOPTED BY THE EIGHTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
IN 1953 WHICH CLEARLY RECOGNIZED THAT THE PEOPLE OF  
PUERTO RICO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION,  
PLUS THE CLEARER DECISION OF THE 26TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
IN 1971 WHICH DECIDED NOT TO INVOLVE ITSELF IN THE QUESTION  
OF PUERTO RICO.

BY THIS VOTE TODAY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE HAVE ACCELERATED  
THE COMMITTEE'S RETREAT FROM REALITY AND CONTRIBUTED TO  
THE TENDENCY DEPLORED BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO USE THE  
UNITED NATIONS TO ACHIEVE NARROW GOALS.

THE RESOLUTION ITSELF CLEARLY DEMONSTRATES THAT THESE  
DELEGATES DELIBERATELY CHOSE TO OVERLOOK THE REALITIES OF  
THE PUERTO RICAN SITUATION. EVEN THOUGH IT CLAIMS TO BE ONLY  
A "PROCEDURAL" RESOLUTION, IT REFERS TO A DISCREDITED  
FRINGE GROUP WHICH ADVOCATES A PARTICULAR POLITICAL FUTURE  
FOR PUERTO RICO. IT MAKES NO MENTION OF THE FACT, STRESSED  
REPEATEDLY BY PUERTO RICAN GOVERNOR RAFAEL HERNANDEZ-  
COLON, FORMER GOVERNOR LUIS FERRE AND MYSELF THAT 96  
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PERCENT OF THE PUERTO RICAN VOTERS REJECTED THE FORMULA  
PEDDLED BY THIS GROUP IN THE 1972 ELECTIONS IN PUERTO  
RICO.

IT MAY BE SOME CONSOLATION TO THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO,  
WHO UNDOUBTEDLY WILL BE AS OUTRAGED AS I AM BY THIS  
BLATANT INTERFERENCE IN THEIR INTERNAL AFFAIRS, TO  
REALIZE THAT MANY OF THE NATIONS WHICH TOOK THE LEAD IN

SUPPORTING THE RESOLUTION DO NOT PERMIT THEIR CITIZENS  
FREELY TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON WHO WILL GOVERN THEM  
AND FOR HOW LONG. THEREFORE, IT WAS PERHAPS INEVITABLE,  
IF REGRETTABLE, THAT THEY IGNORED THE 1972 ELECTION  
RETURNS FROM PUERTO RICO.

I HOPE, HOWEVER, THAT THE ACTION TAKEN TODAY WILL NOT CAUSE  
CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES AND PUERTO RICO TO BLAME  
THE UNITED NATIONS AS AN INSTITUTION. WE HAVE LISTENED  
CAREFULLY TO THE STATEMENTS MADE TODAY BY REPRESENTATIVES  
OF THOSE NATIONS WHICH COULD NOT ACCEPT THIS RESOLUTION.  
WE FIND IN THESE STATEMENTS JUSTIFICATION FOR OUR CONTINUED  
CONFIDENCE THAT RESPECT FOR THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER  
AND FOR THE RIGHT OF ALL PEOPLES TO DETERMINE THEIR OWN  
DESTINIES STILL EXISTS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE AS WELL AS IN  
THE UNITED NATIONS AS A WHOLE. RESOLUTIONS SUCH AS THAT  
ADOPTED TODAY, HOWEVER, DO NOT BRING CREDIT TO THE UNITED  
NATIONS AS IT SEEKS TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEMS OF THE REAL  
WORLD." SCALI UNQUOTE ROGERS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 AUG 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973STATE174102  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** ARA/CAR:G. B. HIGH  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t1973082/aaaaaayz.tel  
**Line Count:** 134  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** USUN 2967  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07-Sep-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <05-Feb-2002 by cunninfx>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PUERTO RICO IN UN COMITE OF 24  
**TAGS:** PFOR, RQ, UN  
**To:** MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005